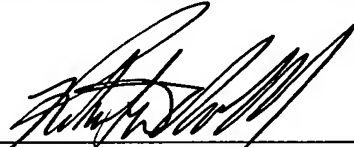


REMARKS

To simplify prosecution of the present case, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-9 and 22-27 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Consideration of the remaining claims leading to their allowance and passage of the application to issuance is respectfully requested. In the event there are any questions related to this amendment or to the application in general, the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to address those questions directly in a telephone interview to expedite the prosecution of this application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert D. Null', is written over a horizontal line.

Robert D. Null
Reg. No. 40,746

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